Initial: 9/92 Reviewed/revised: 5/10/00 Revision: 2

MILWAUKEE COUNTY EMS PRACTICAL SKILL BOARD SPLINT

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Signature:	
Page 1 of 1	

Purpose:		Indications:	
To provide rigid splinting for a suspected fracture in an extremity		Suspected extremity fracture	
Advantages:	Disadvantages:	Complications:	Contraindications:
Easy to apply	Soft tissue swelling can cause bandages	None	None
Readily available	holding the board in place to become too		
	tight and restrict peripheral circulation		

Cover any open wound with sterile dressing, control bleeding; support fracture site during process

Check distal pulse, sensation and movement

Straighten any severe angulation with gentle longitudinal traction above and below break; maintain traction while splint is applied and fixed in place by EMT #2

If resistance is felt when attempting to straighten, stop attempt and splint in position found

Apply rigid splint to extremity, extending from joint above through joint below fracture site

Secure splint to extremity with bandage

Check distal circulation, sensation, and movement after splinting and frequently thereafter

Loosen bandages on splint if necessary to maintain circulation

A sling and swathe may be used to further support upper extremity injuries

NOTES:

• Fractures/injuries appropriately treated with a board splint are: radius, ulna, midshaft humerus, tibia/fibula.